

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AF-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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TAGS: PFOR, CA

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU'S TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA

1. CP TICKER CARRIED FOLLOWING STORY JAN 15 (PM) OF
PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU'S UPCOMING TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA:

2. "PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU IS SHARPENING UP HIS SPANISH
TO TAKE CANADA'S STORY DIRECTLY TO THE PEOPLE OF LATIN
AMERICA LATER THIS MONTH.

3. "A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE SAID
THURSDAY HE WILL SPEAK PUBLICLY IN SPANISH AT LEAST
THREE TIMES DURING HIS TOUR OF MEXICO, CUBA AND VENEZUELA.

4. "THESE PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS OF HIS LINGUISTIC
ABILITY WILL TAKE PLACE IN MEXICO CITY, HAVANA AND CARACAS,
THE THREE CAPITAL CITIES MR. TRUDEAU WILL VISIT BETWEEN
JAN 23 AND FEB 2. "THIS IS NOT JUST FOR THE SAKE OF
POLITENESS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID. "THE ISSUE IS TO SEE THAT
THE LARGEST POSSIBLE AUDIENCE IS GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY
TO LEARN ABOUT CANADA."

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5. "THE PRIME MINISTER IS KNOWN TO BE FLUENT ENOUGH IN SPANISH TO CONDUCT CONVERSATIONS IN THAT LANGUAGE. IT IS EXPECTED THAT HIS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT LUIS ECHEVERRIA OF MEXICO, PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ OF VENEZUELA AND PRIME MINISTER FIDEL CASTRO OF CUBA WILL BE LARGELY IN SPANISH.

6. "TRADE MATTERS ARE FORECAST TO DOMINATE THE DISCUSSIONS AND NO DRASTIC CHANGES IN CANADA'S LATIN AMERICA POLICIES ARE FORESEEN.

7. "THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPOKESMAN SAID THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE THAT THIS COUNTRY WILL MOVE IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO SEEK FULL-FLEDGED MEMBERSHIP IN THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, CANADA HAS HELD PERMANENT-OBSERVER STATUS IN THE OAS SINCE 1972.

8. "CUBA'S MILITARY INTERVENTION IN THE ANGOLA CIVIL WAR AND MEXICO'S SUPPORT FOR AN ANTI-ZIONISM RESOLUTION AT THE UNITED NATIONS ARE MATTERS WHICH DON'T JIBE WITH CANADIAN FOREIGN POLICY. THEY ARE EXPECTED TO COME UP IN THE COURSE OF THE TALKS BUT WITHOUT ANY SPECIAL EMPHASIS.

9. "CANADA IS OPPOSED TO ANY FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA," THE SPOKESMAN SAID, "AND NO DOUBT IT WILL BE MENTIONED."

10. "HOWEVER, MR. TRUDEAU TOLD THE COMMONS LAST MONTH HE IS UNLIKELY TO ASK MR. CASTRO TO WITHDRAW CUBAN TROOPS FROM ANGOLA. HE ALSO SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT TO RECEIVE ANY ADVICE FROM THE CUBAN PRIME MINISTER ABOUT THE DEPLOYMENT OF CANADIAN FORCES.

11. "CANADA'S POSITION HAS BEEN THAT IT IS FOR THE AFRICANS TO DECIDE WHO GOVERNS ANGOLA, THE FORMER PORTUGUESE COLONY.

12. "VENEZUELA LOOMS LARGEST ON THE TRADE-TALKS AGENDA. CANADA'S HEAVY DEPENDENCE ON VENEZUELAN CRUDE OIL RESULTS IN AN ANNUAL TRADE DEFICIT OF MORE THAN UNCLASSIFIED

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\$1 BILLION, IT IS THE LARGEST TRADE IMBALANCE CANADA HAS WITH ANY COUNTRY.

13. "GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SAY SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE TO REDUCE THIS UNFAVORABLE BALANCE. THUS MR. TRUDEAU WILL TRY TO PERSUADE PRESIDENT PEREZ TO BUY MORE CANADIAN PRODUCTS.

14. "ONE OFFICIAL SAYS EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO
SET UP A BETTER FRAMEWORK FOR TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO
COUNTRIES. NO NEW TREATIES WILL BE CONCLUDED DURING
THE PRIME MINISTER'S TRIP "BUT THAT DOESN'T EXCLUDE
SOME BITS OF PAPER BEING SIGNED," THE OFFICIAL SAID."
JOHNSON

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